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August 25 Live Virtual Training is accredited for:

.25 credit hour for ACCME, ACCME-NP, ACPE, ADA, ANCC, ABIM MOC, CDR

- You must **register in TMS *before* the event starts using the Register Now button rather than Assign to Me.**

❖ To obtain full credit for the class in TMS:

- Register, confirm attendance **AND** complete the after-session evaluation
- Click the link [COVID in 20: Aug 25, 2020](#) to register in TMS

Participants will not be registered after the event.

For information on how to register and print certificates in TMS [click here](#).

Call starts at 4:30 pm ET

○ **Adobe Connect**

- Accessible outside the network – on your personal computer and phone.

○ **Audio**

- Participants are muted – use Q & A to interact
- Use Adobe Connect to listen
- If needed, use VANTS **1 800 767 1750** then **12328**

○ **Recordings**

- Available soon after the live event at [EM Community of Practice Website](#).

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Catalyst – VA is
leading the way
in Virtual Care!



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ARTICLE

Expanding Access through Virtual Care: The VA's Early Experience with Covid-19

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The Veterans Affairs (VA) Healthcare System has faced unique challenges responding to the Covid-19 pandemic because of its large size and widely diverse operating environments, the high disease burden of its patient population, and its role as a back-up system to the private sector in times of national emergency. Three priorities have driven its initial response: (1) how to continue providing access to medical and mental health care to millions of patients who have multiple co-morbidities and live in highly diverse settings; (2) how to prevent spread of Covid-19 within its facilities and keep patients and staff as safe as possible; and (3) how to maintain or expand access in Covid-19 hotspots and in states under “stay at home” orders. Rapidly expanding virtual care delivery by VA providers has been a central element in VA’s response. We have learned several lessons that we believe have broad applicability and have identified areas that require further investigation in what we believe is the beginning of a new era for health care delivery.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Healthcare System has faced multiple challenges confronting the Covid-19 pandemic because of its large size and widely diverse operating environments, the high disease burden of its patient population, and its role as a back-up system to the private sector in times of national emergency. VA’s initial response to the pandemic focused on three critical priorities: (1) how to continue providing access to medical and mental health care to millions of patients who have multiple co-morbidities and live in highly diverse settings; (2) how to prevent spread of Covid-19 within its facilities and keep patients and staff as safe as possible; and (3) how to maintain or expand access to care in Covid-19 hotspots and in states under “stay at home” orders. Rapidly expanding virtual care has been a central element in VA’s response to the pandemic.

Thanks to Ryan Lilly, VISN 1 Network Director (VA New England Health Care System), for the beautiful photo from Acadia National Park, in his home state of Maine!



CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Manuel Celedon, CHAI Award Winner!!

Dr. Manuel Celedon created and led the operations of our Greater Los Angeles Enhanced Screening Tent. He has worked tirelessly to implement a system efficient in assessing our veterans and staff resulting in decreased exposure within the hospital. This involved hours of hands-on training and collaboration with multiple services. He also developed the widely acclaimed online questionnaires, the Provider Disposition Tool and the GLA VA Employee Symptom Self-Referral Tool. Dr. Celedon's efforts, initiative and leadership have been and continue to be invaluable to the Greater Los Angeles facility in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic.

Submitted by Trish Fermin



One Minute with the Chief Video



**Dr. Steven Lieberman**

Steven L. Lieberman, MD, MBA, FACHE, FACP, was named Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health in the Department of Veterans Affairs on August 13, 2018. He leads clinical policies and programs for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), the United States' largest integrated health care system. VHA is also the Nation's largest provider of graduate medical education and a major contributor to medical research.

**Dr. Jennifer MacDonald**

Jennifer MacDonald, MD is the Chief Consultant to the Deputy Under Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In this role, she works to advance progress on critical priorities for the Veterans Health Administration. She is a Family Medicine physician and U.S. Army Veteran experienced in leading complex system transformation and dedicated to patient, family, and provider empowerment through the strategic delivery of technology-enabled, equitable care.

GOOD NEWS PAGE

The CHAI Award

CCOVID-19 HHero AAward for IInnovation

*An award to celebrate **hard work and innovation** in the face of COVID*

Not your average cup of Chai!

We would love to hear your stories!

Have **good news, success stories, innovative ideas from the front line, funny videos?**

Please share them with us!

We will feature selected stories here!

- Please submit videos in .mov or .MP4 format
- Try to keep videos around a minute long
- If recording on a smartphone, shoot video sideways
- We plan to share one submission per *COVID in 20* episode.
- Be creative!

Link to CHAI Award Online Nomination [here](#).



C20 Wants You!

To Share Your Talent

There are a lot of wonderfully talented people in VA. We would like to showcase that talent here on COVID in 20.

If you are willing to share, please email VHA COVID in 20 VHACOVIdin20@va.gov. Title your email with your talent and attach audio or video file.

